

Wisconsin Idea Forum Questions 1 & 2:

What does the Wisconsin Idea mean to me?

In a Wisconsin Idea world, how would I behave?

M & B

- Accessibility to knowledge and resources
- Dialogues: internal and external
- Mutually beneficial endeavors
- Going beyond campus (locally and globally) results in tangible benefits to campus
- Rewards P and T decisions (incentives and structures to participate)
- Make knowledge and resources accessible
- Encourage diversity on campus

1. Respect / Listen

- Two-way, generative T and L
- Accountability, responsibility
- Reciprocal sharing of resources and understanding
 - Wide variety; expand definition
- As we generate meaning together we create the future” –Kenneth Gergen

Behavior:

1. Creating opportunities for “community”
 - a. Space and time for dialogue between disparate, diverse people
2. Changing constraints of institutional structure (money, product, and time); changing ethos
3. Listen first to understand
4. Value of reflection, facilitate Meta-learning
5. Continue to disturb (the system) in the correct way
6. Be able to say “Yes!”

- Access to knowledge
- Create theme-based events
- Building a community between grad students and undergraduates
- Database—make sure we’re not duplicating efforts across campus

Dancing without Inhibitions

Themes:

- The University should also encourage and support faculty involvement in the community
- The world is better off / a better place

- Improve the lives of Wisconsin residents and communities
- University plays an important role in the community
- Porous University boundary (two-way)
- Inter-generational
- Shared success and accessibility and welcoming

Behaviors:

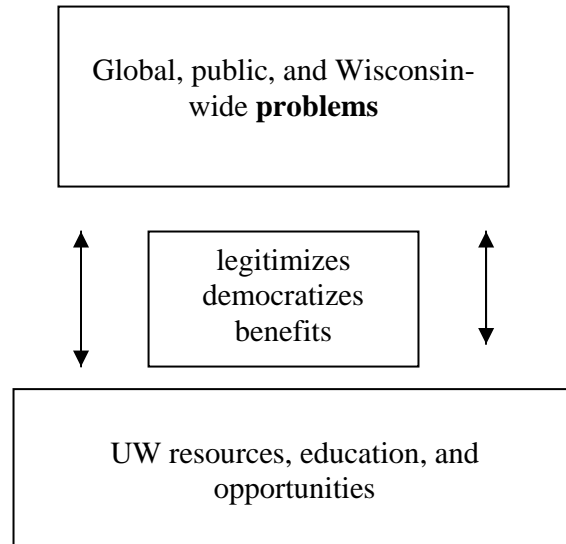
- I advocate for investment in the Wisconsin Idea!
- I collaborate!
- I feel connected!
- I dance and sing without inhibitions!
- I travel to wonderful and exotic locations!

Themes Regarding Behavior

- Decrease the amount of second-guessing: not have to “justify” activity proposed (which takes time and energy)—i.e. time required, for within goals/mission of my department or school
- Not get mired in the “messiness” involved with defining / negotiating relationships—no need for spanning boundaries because the system would be more fluid
- Would like the University faculty and staff to feel like they are part of the community and the community is part of the university community
- Make the university more welcoming\

Themes of Meaning

- Bring information, resources, and education from UW outside UW inspiration (attitude / philosophy) → not just bringing “products”
- Two-way exchange → UW faculty/staff and community learn from one another (i.e. community-based participatory research)
- Apply knowledge / information in community to benefit them
- Responsibility to serve—that influences the way we teach, research, and service; not a separate function
- Barriers between university and community should / could be broken down
- UW needs to be *really* accessible to the community



- Public
 - Engagement
 - Service
- Access / Equality
- Resources

Learning Needs and Assets of Communities

- Developing programs to meet needs
- Dialogue with communities → build relationships
 - Listening as well as talking
- “Communities” going beyond environment
- Long-term, sustainable
- UW-System-wide (listen / relationship)

Behaviors

- Check attitude at the door
- Share resources, expertise, and learn from others
- Clear about roles, expectations, longevity, responsibilities, decision-making (Transparency)
- Deep listening—open channels of communication
- Commitment
- Flexibility (our brilliant idea may not be meaningful to the audience)

Themes

- Using the Wisconsin Idea for the betterment of others

- Imparting the value of the Wisconsin Idea to faculty, staff, and students
- Recognizing and rewarding staff and faculty when they engage in the Wisconsin Idea
- Putting community and constituency first

More Themes

- Mutual sharing
- Collaborative knowledge building
- Mutually beneficial
- Locally, nationally, internationally
- Improving people's lives
- Equal exchange between community and university
- Partnership and involvement

Behaviors

- Accessibility—database of resources
- Make knowledge useable
- Improve communication between communities and the university
- Promote the Wisconsin Idea to funders
- Humility
- Wisconsin central to everything that happens at UW
- Make collaborating fun
- Interdisciplinary